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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I'm writing in opposition to the USTelecom petition. Please do not accept this petition as policy. I believe the lack of competition within the telecommunication industry has limited me personally and the country generally. By limiting small providers even more, I believe this petition will greatly reduce competition.

I live in a densely populated urban neighborhood in the San Francisco Bay area. The heart of Internet based industry. There are two major telecom companies that control the network infrastructure in my neighborhood. In other words, there is basically no competition. I'm limited to a slow DSL connection. The same speed I had 20 years ago. The infrastructure hasn't been touched by the major telecoms in more than 20 years. This is truly pathetic and indicates the major failure of allowing a tiny number of telecoms to control the infrastructure. This is a failure of the FCC.

In fact, the only company that has expanded networking infrastructure in my area within 20+ years are small providers. Small providers are in the process of installing fiber here where the large telecoms have absolutely and completely failed. My only hope of having a network connection that doesn't compare to third world countries is small providers. There are many things the FCC could and should do to increase actual competition. But please do not make it worse by accepting the policies within the USTelecom petition.

Michael Baer